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SR/2-B-61-292

27 June 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Report of Meeting between Robert T. GOFORTH (pseudonym)
and [redacted]

PLACE : Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C.

DATE : 27 April 1961 at 1615 hours

1. [redacted] who was present for about the first fifteen minutes of the meeting, met [redacted] in the lobby of the Shoreham and took him to GOFORTH. After a few introductory remarks, GOFORTH immediately launched into a discussion of a book which he had recently completed. This book had been sent the previous week to [redacted] and had been given to [redacted] for reading. [redacted] indicated that he had examined the table of contents and had skimmed through the book and felt that the topic was of very great interest, in particular because of its relationship to the issue of colonialism. [redacted] added that any support of the book would depend on a more exact determination of its suitability and appropriateness for those activities and issues in which the Government is interested. GOFORTH then pointed out that he was ready and willing to change the contents in any way to make additions or changes as desired by the Government. He mentioned that he had written the book in Latvian and then had it translated into English by another Latvian whose English was not the most polished. He felt therefore that it would very definitely be necessary to have the contents of the book polished, especially from the point of view of the English. [redacted] then promised to examine the book in greater detail and to indicate to GOFORTH what kind of support could be given and what changes would be desired. He questioned GOFORTH as to where GOFORTH was considering having the book published, and GOFORTH mentioned that he had considered two places in particular; first of all an individual named Robert SPELLER, who publishes some books, or the Frederick PRAGER Co., which specializes in books on Communism.

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2. GOFORTH then proceeded to describe the contacts which he had had with some of the Afro-Asian delegates to the United Nations. These contacts were developed through the Indian journalist, SAVARKAR, who writes for the Baltic Institute, an organization which is based primarily on GOFORTH plus Vincent RASTENIS, the Lithuanian leader of the Nationalist elements of the Lithuanian community. GOFORTH stressed the benefits which he felt could accrue from such a personal approach as he had been able to make with the Afro-Asians, stressing also the fact that any effort should be small in scale so as not to scare off the Afro-Asians. In speaking of RASTENIS, GOFORTH mentioned that he is a good man, recommended him highly as being a hard worker and able to discuss things objectively. He then went on to describe in detail a series of meetings, the first of which took place on Sunday, 9 April. On this occasion, SAVARKAR had invited two Ghanians, including the Consul-General, two Nigerians, and one Senegalese, the First Secretary, whose name was SALL. The names of the two Nigerians were ASIODU and IFIAGWU, both of whom were first secretaries. The Baltic representation included RASTENIS and BERZINS. The only other person present aside from SAVARKAR was SAVARKAR's wife. The discussion at this dinner touched on the issue of Communism and also on the issue of the Baltic States. The following day SAVARKAR received a call from the Ambassador of Ghana, who invited him to a dinner that evening at which also were present the Ambassadors of Ceylon and Liberia. Apparently the Ghanian Consul-General, who had attended the dinner the previous evening at SAVARKAR's, had mentioned the conversations which had taken place to the Ghanian Ambassador, so that that evening, on the tenth, at the dinner given by the Ghanian Ambassador, SAVARKAR was questioned in detail about his attitude towards Communism and why he was writing articles against Communism. SAVARKAR pointed out that he had learned of Communism from his many acquaintances in New York and especially from some of the Balts. The Africans then asked him if he would be willing to write more about their countries of Ghana and Liberia, to which SAVARKAR replied that he would be most happy to do so.

3. SAVARKAR is a correspondent for the Hindu newspaper KESTRE in Puna in Bombay Province. In addition, he works for the Baltic Institute and normally prepares an article each week, usually touching on some aspect of Communism. This article is then sent to 168 different publications in Africa and Asia. GOFORTH mentioned that usually about three to five clippings per month are received from these publications to which the material is addressed. He added, however,

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that this does not include all of the instances where the material is used, because often it forms the basis for editorials or other special feature articles, and the material in such cases is not ascribed to SAVARKAR. GOFORTH added that the Baltic Institute was a Free Europe project which would soon be stopped. He pointed out that the major costs at the present time included the payment of \$75 per week to SAVARKAR for the article per week which he produced, plus the cost of printing and mailing these articles, for a basic cost of about \$120 per week. In addition to himself and RASTENIS, the other member of the Baltic Institute is the Estonian, ROOSARE.

4. The ALA Congress was then discussed and GOFORTH promised that he would speak on Saturday morning of the issue of colonialism and would devote major attention to this issue on every occasion throughout the Congress. [] then stated that he felt that the Baltic cause could be benefited most by relating it to the issue of colonialism and that he was most pleased that GOFORTH would be able to raise this issue at the Congress. He added further that the Government would like to learn more of the possibilities which GOFORTH has for pushing the example of Soviet colonialism in the Baltic states among the Africans and the Asians. GOFORTH then promised to send to [] articles prepared by SAVARKAR and a list of the major publications which were receiving SAVARKAR's material plus clippings indicating that the material had been used. He also promised to keep [] informed as to any contacts which he might develop himself with Afro-Asians.

5. GOFORTH also showed [] a letter from an organization called the Anti-Communist International, of which GOFORTH is a member of the Executive Committee; a copy of this letter is attached to this report. The Anti-Communist International has not yet met; however, GOFORTH indicated that the first meeting was to be called within the next ten days by Robert SPELLER, the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the same person through whom GOFORTH hoped to have his book on Latvia published.

[] SRP/Baltic/CA []

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